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Kernan announces Department of Workforce Development grants for four Northern Indiana companies

Lieutenant Governor Joe Kernan today announced training grants from the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) to four Northern Indiana companies. The awards, totaling more than \$581,000 and benefiting almost 1,000 employees, are made through the Gain Education and Training (GET) grant and are administered by DWD's Advance Indiana program, part of the State of Indiana's Skills 2016 training initiative.

"We are pleased to present these awards to companies and organizations that show commitment to their workers," said Kernan. "Not only does this keep workers at the top of their profession, it keeps these businesses competitive in today's economy."

Northern Indiana workers will receive training through the four grants in the following areas:

Citation Corporation in Albion will receive \$113,137 to train 55 employees in machining operations. The employees will receive 18 credit hours through Vincennes University and the Freedom Academy of Kendallville. Citation provides production machining for the Automotive, Agricultural, Heavy Equipment, and Marine industries. Citation has agreed to match the grant with \$165,776.00 in direct and in-kind funds.

Fairmont Homes, Inc. in Nappanee will receive \$200,000 to train 400 employees. The employees will receive Certificates of Technical Achievement in Advanced Manufacturing and 1,200 specialized certifications. Twenty-five of the employees will pursue Associate Degrees, receiving 30 college credits. Fairmont, a producer of manufactured homes, will contribute \$404,852.00 in direct and in-kind match.

Gulf Stream Coach, Inc. in Nappanee will receive \$200,000 to train 400 employees. Employees will receive Certificates of Technical Achievement in Advanced Manufacturing and Business Support, 25 Associate Degrees, and 1,000 customized certifications. Gulf Stream is a manufacturer of middle to high-end recreational vehicles and will contribute \$395,652.00 in matching funds and in-kind purchases.

Sea Hawk Recreational Vehicles, Inc. in Nappanee has been awarded \$68,600 to train 135 employees. The training will result in 10 Associate Degrees, 100 Certificates of Technical Achievement in Advanced Manufacturing and Business Support, and 300 job specific customized certifications. Sea Hawk will match this grant with \$117,585.00 in funding.

DWD awards grants through the Advance Indiana program, to find out more about these grants or about the Skills 2016 initiative, go to www.in.gov/skills2016.